

see for anyone seriously seeking to serve in public office.

Over the years, many leaders came to rely on Jack's wisdom and guidance. His good judgment and invaluable counsel was always appreciated and will be greatly missed.

When we reflect upon the lives of men such as Jack Waldroup, Sr., we are reminded that we live in a country where the true power to shape the destiny of government is vested in the people. We will all miss Jack deeply, but his memory will serve as a beacon and his life as an example of the virtues of civic involvement. He was my friend, and I shall miss him.●

HONORING HAYS HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate some hard-working students who are paying attention to a neglected area of all of our education—our own history and founding.

Fortunately, there are programs such as "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution program," which is the most extensive educational program in the country, and was developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. This program, which is administered by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress, finally addresses this woeful lack of knowledge in a systematic and thorough way.

In fact, on April 26, 2003, more than 1,200 students from across the United States will visit Washington, D.C., to compete in the national finals of the "We the People" program. What an experience!

I am especially proud to announce that the class from Hays High School from the town of Hays will represent my home State of Kansas in this national event. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals by participating at local and statewide competitions. As a result of their experience, they have gained much—including a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The three-day "We the People" national competition is difficult, yet true to life as it is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress. These hearings consist of oral presentations by high school students before a panel of adult judges on constitutional topics. The students are given an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge while they evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues. Their testimony is followed by a period of questioning by the judges who probe the students' depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

The "We the People" program—which provides curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels—not only enhances stu-

dents' understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy, but it also helps them identify the contemporary relevance of the Constitution and Bill of Rights. At the same time, critical thinking exercises, problem-solving activities, and cooperative learning techniques help develop participatory skills necessary for students to become active, responsible citizens.

Independent studies done by groups as diverse as the Educational Testing Service, Richard Brody at Stanford University, and researchers at the Council for Basic Education discovered that participants outperform comparison students, develop a greater commitment to democratic principles and values and are more enthusiastic about their work. Clearly this is a deserving program!

The class from Hays High School is currently preparing for their participation in the national competition in Washington, D.C. It is inspiring to see these young people advocate the fundamental ideals and principles of our government, ideas that identify us as a people and bind us together as a nation. It is important for future generations to understand these values and principles which we hold as standards in our endeavor to preserve and realize the promise of our constitutional democracy. I wish these young "constitutional experts" the best of luck at the "We the People" national finals.●

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today, with great admiration and as a proud alumnus, I congratulate the University of Wisconsin in Madison men's basketball team for their victory over the University of Illinois this week. This victory allowed the Badgers to claim the Big Ten conference title outright for the first time since 1947. As a lifelong Badger, I am proud of their accomplishment and I look forward to their play in the postseason.

In this, the 105th season of men's basketball at UW-Madison, the players and the coaching staff won their first consecutive conference crown since the 1923 and 1924 seasons. For the second year in a row, Badger basketball has made the people in Madison and around Wisconsin and the country proud to be Badgers. With this win, Coach Bo Ryan becomes only the third coach in Big Ten history to win titles in his first two seasons as coach. With this championship, UW-Madison continues its long tradition of dominance in Big Ten athletics.

As a graduate of UW-Madison, I take great pride in commending our men's basketball team, and I wish Coach Ryan and his Badger team all the best in postseason play. Wisconsin is behind you, and we wish you all the luck. Go Badgers.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

REPORT PROVIDING A PLAN FOR SECURING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, MATERIAL, AND EXPERTISE OF THE STATES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION AND REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THAT PLAN DURING FISCAL YEAR 2002—PM 22

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 1205 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (Public Law 107-107) and section 1205 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107-314), I am providing a report prepared by my Administration which presents a plan for securing nuclear weapons, material, and expertise of the states of the Former Soviet Union and reports on implementation of that plan during Fiscal Year 2002.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 11, 2003.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1496. A communication from the Acting Deputy Principal Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Rubber Tire Manufacturing (FRL 7463-2)" received on March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1497. A communication from the Acting Deputy Principal Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Surface Coating of Metal Furniture (FRL 7462-1)" received on March 6, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1498. A communication from the Acting Deputy Principal Associate Administrator,